MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 NOVEMBER 1983

Israel

The new agreements with the United States will lead to a "new era" in U.S.-Israeli relations, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio after meeting with President Reagan. While the two leaders agreed on a range of military, economic, and political measures that expand U.S.-Israeli cooperation, differences of opinion remain over the issue of Israeli settlements and U.S. plans to arm Jordan, the radio noted. In an interview with the radio, Shamir denied that he had agreed to "reconsider" the Reagan plan and reaffirmed Israel's view that the Camp David accords constitute the sole basis for reaching peace between Israel and its neighbors.

Lebanon

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil ended his visit to Rome and departed for Washington on 29 November, according to Beirut radio. Foreign Minister Elie Salim explained the government's position on the Israeli-Lebanese agreement at a news conference in Rome broadcast by the radio. While the agreement provides for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, Salim said, Israel set conditions for this move that are not covered by the agreement. Reaffirming the government's goal of the removal of all non-Lebanese forces, Salim said it will "accept any document" that gets the Israelis out and "any arrangements" that will ensure Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal. On the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, Salim restated the commitment to aid Palestinian refugees and give all Palestinians "legitimately present" all rights and duties stipulated by Lebanese law. All Palestinians "who came to Lebanon illegally to join the fighting and warring factions" must leave.

Military Developments — The Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the Iranian-supported Hezbollah is installing Soviet-made surface-to-surface missiles in Beirut's southern suburb to strike the Multinational Forces. Meanwhile, all air traffic at Beirut airport was suspended for "security reasons" in the wake of shelling, Beirut radio announced. The B'abda area of Beirut was shelled, the radio added, and a Lebanese Army communique broadcast by the radio disclosed that Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Khaldah came under small arms, artillery, and rocket fire. The radio also reported that 60 Middle East Airlines employees were abducted on the airport road in South Beirut by gunmen and subsequently released unharmed.

PLO Affairs

Political Developments — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated in a message to the Arab nation that the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon are being subjected to "destruction and to evacuation attempts," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. King Husayn, in a message broadcast by Amman television, said Jordan considers attempts to undermine or contain Palestinian decisionmaking as contributing to Israel's objectives. The king discussed events in northern Lebanon with PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani on 29 November, Amman radio noted.

In other Palestinian solidarity day messages, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn condemned Syrian and Libyan interference in the PLO while the Iranian Foreign Ministry denounced "compromising policies" toward Israel and called on the Arab and Muslim countries to use all their military and economic resources to smash the "Zionist regime," according to statements broadcast respectively by Baghdad Voice of the Masses and Tehran radios.

Iraq

In 1985 Iraq will begin to export 500,000 barrels of oil per day, which may rise to 2 million barrels per day eventually, via a pipeline through Saudi Arabia, Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani told the magazine *PETROLEUM INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY* as reported by KUNA.

Chad

A statement signed by opposition leader Goukouni Oueddei and broadcast by the clandestine Bardai Chadian National Radio announced the formation of a "supreme organ of the Chadian revolution" composed of signatories of the Lagos accords that formed the Transitional Government of National Unity and called the "National Council of Liberation."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Karmal Notes 'Flaws' in Party, State Work
LD301025 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0440 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Kabul, November 29, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the DPA CC and president of the Revolution Council of the DRA, gave a comprehensive speech at today's session of the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

In his speech, Babrak Karmal critically assessed and analysed the basic aspects of the work of the responsible party and state officials. He specified the shortcomings, flaws and mistakes which are existing in their work. Babrak Karmal advised definite guidelines for the removal of the existing defects and for the prevention of mistakes.

He also addressed the party and state responsible officials on how to improve their performances and how to consolidate the party and state discipline. Also he stressed on exercising strict control on the execution of the work, observance of the revolutionary legality and the promotion of work efficacy.

Today's session was also attended by member of Politburo, secretaries of the PDPA CC, members of the presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, leaders of the social organizations and the National Fatherland Front and a number of high-ranking state officials.

SPA: Massive Soviet Operation Carried Out 22 Nov
LD292229 Riyadh SPA in English 1936 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 29, SPA — Seventeen mujahideen were killed during a massive operation carried out by the Soviet ground forces in Afghanistan's northern Samangan Province on November 22, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources said the operation involved nearly 200 Soviet-crewed tanks and affected a number of villages near Tashkergan. Heavy fighting was also reported south and west of Mazar-e Sharif, capital of the Balkh Province, close to the Soviet borders.

Two Soviets were killed and one was captured by the Afghan mujahideen on November 14 when resistance hit a Soviet Afghan military post at Kariz-e Mir in the Shomali area north of Kabul, the sources said. They added that a Soviet armoured personnel carrier (APC) was also destroyed at the post.

On November 16, the sources said four MIGs and two helicopters bombed Kariz-e Mir in reprisal attacks, killing many civilians and destroying a number of houses.

Two Soviet advisers were killed in Kabul on November 20, the Peshawar-based MUJAHID PRESS AGENCY said in a report dispatched earlier today.

Meanwhile, Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad said nearly 30 political assassinations took place in Kabul during the month of November.

Foreign Minister Returns From UN Deliberations
LD291828 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs and head of the DRA delegation to the 38th session of the UN General Assembly, returned home today after attending the General Assembly sessions and discussions with the UN secretary general and his deputy on topics of mutual interest.

At Kabul International Airport, the minister of foreign affairs was welcomed by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce, deputy ministers and heads of Foreign Ministry departments, the Soviet ambassador in Kabul, and the head of the UN office in Kabul.

AFP: Government Orders 18 Soviet Diplomats To Leave

BK300448 Hong Kong AFP in English 0440 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 30 (AFP) — Press reports from Dhaka today said that 18 Soviet diplomats have been ordered to leave Bangladesh within 48 hours.

The Bangladesh Government also asked the Soviet mission in Dhaka to close its cultural center, the reports said.

The Soviet Embassy was accused of interfering in Bangladesh's internal affairs, the reports said, although no specific facts were mentioned.

The Soviet Embassy, with 100 people including 36 diplomats, is the biggest diplomatic mission in Dhaka.

Official Cited on Expulsion

BK301210 Hong Kong AFP in English 1156 GMT 30 Nov 83

[By Richard Breeze]

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 30 (AFP) — Bangladesh has told the Soviet Union that it wants some diplomats withdrawn from the large Soviet mission in Dhaka, sources close to the government said here today.

Foreign Ministry officials meanwhile refused to comment on reports here that the regime of Lieutenant-General Hussain Mohammad Ershad had ordered the expulsion of 18 Soviet diplomats and told Moscow to close its cultural centre here.

Reports in the mass circulation Bengali daily *ITTEFAQ* and the English-language daily *NEW NATION* said Dhaka had told Moscow that the number of Soviet diplomats here should be halved. The papers said the demand had been prompted by the involvement of Soviet Embassy personnel in activities not normally related to their diplomatic role.

"The reduction in Soviet diplomatic personnel in Dhaka has been the subject of discussions we have had with the Soviet mission here," the official said. "The mission is too big for the task that the Soviet diplomats have here. Also their embassy here is much bigger from the point of staff strength than our embassy in Moscow," added the official who refused to be identified.

The Soviet Embassy is the largest in Dhaka. According to the latest edition of the diplomatic list, Moscow has 36 accredited diplomats, including those in the trade and economic sections, the military attache's unit and the press and cultural sides. There are also about 100 employees, well-informed sources said. By comparison, the United States has 24 accredited diplomats.

According to the reports, Soviet Ambassador Valentin Stepanov was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Monday and told of the expulsion decision.

On Monday, violent clashes between security forces and anti-martial law demonstrators here left four people dead and more than 300 injured.

"This dialogue with Moscow about the reduction of the size of the mission has been going on for a long time," a diplomatic source said. Other diplomatic sources noted that any expulsion order was a "very serious" matter. If the reports were confirmed, it would mean that the Bangladeshi Government was "quite convinced" that the Soviets had been behaving in a way unfitting for their diplomatic status, they added.

A spokesman at the Soviet cultural mission housed in a villa in the Dhanmondi residential quarter told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE: "The closure is news to us."

But the center was not allowing people to use its facilities today. Workmen were busy repairing the building and painting the front gate blue. "We started repairs and repainting abut three days ago. We hope to have them finished in a week," a spokesman said.

Soviet diplomats were not available for comment on the reports. Two years ago three Soviet diplomats were withdrawn after complaints form Dhaka. They had been found with film in an area close to a Chinese-aided machine tools factory.

Also in 1981, some crates containing electronic equipment were seized by customs authorities at Dhaka airport and a complaint was made to Moscow about Soviet diplomats trying to by-pass customs.

Ershad Addresses Officers, Troops on Situation

BK300432 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] The chief martial law administrator [CMLA], Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has declared that the Armed Forces, who fought and gave blood for the independence of the country, would stand like a solid rock to defend the country's sovereignty and consolidate its hard-earned independence.

Addressing officers and troops at the Jessore and Comilla cantonments yesterday, he said nothing is more dear to them than their motherland whose interests would always remain uppermost in their mind. Gen Ershad said 20 months back when he had to shoulder the responsibility of the government, the country was on the verge of ruination — politically, economically, and socially. Right from the day the responsibility came on us we had been working day and night to rebuild the country and improve the lot of the common man. Our achievements and reformative measures during the last 20 months are more than those who were in power in the past when the poor got poorer and the rich richer. Some disgruntled politicians found that the forces of exploitation were sinking and use of politics for (?destruction) was also at stake. They plan to frustrate the people-oriented program initiated by the government. But to their utter disappointment, the common people extended their wholehearted support with the government programs because they felt that these were really aimed at improving their conditions. These development efforts and reformative measures were hailed both at home and abroad.

Gen Ershad said: Side by side with the development efforts, we have also taken steps toward establishing real democracy. Our

sincerity in this respect was proved when we had announced the dates [of] those elections before anybody asked for them. Even we had withdrawn restrictions on open politics in good faith. We had appealed to the politicians at that time to maintain a congenial atmosphere so that a peaceful transfer of power could take place through a democratic process. But, unfortunately, some political parties mistook our leniency and magnanimity for weakness. The moment restrictions on open politics were withdrawn, some of them [word indistinct] and seized this opportunity to achieve their selfish aim. Instead of choosing a constructive and healthy path, they chose the destructive one. Their indulgence in provocative and seditious talks, their negative and violent attitude surpassed all limits. They are bent on vitiating the peaceful atmosphere by creating chaos and disorder. In a planned way they try to create lawlessness and an instable situation to unseat the government. They even try to frustrate the holding of the coming Islamic foreign ministers conference in Dhaka to belittle the country before the world. Gen Ershad said the government had shown enough good will but the actions of some politicians proved otherwise. He reiterated the government's determination to go ahead with the development programs and maintain all election schedules.

The CMLA was accompanied in Jessore by the zonal martial administrator Zone E, Major General Saklqur Rahman Chowdhury. While in Comilla, he was accompanied by the zonal martial administrator Zone D, Major General Abdus Samad.

Announcement Issued on Curfew, Passes

BK291146 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1100 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] An official announcement today urged the public not to leave their residential places during the period the curfew is in force. The announcement said that the personnel of the law and order agencies engaged in duty have been ordered that they should challenge any person violating the curfew and shoot him immediately if satisfactory reply is not received.

The announcement said for the information of the public that curfew passes are being issued from the deputy zonal martial law administrator's office at Shurwardy Uddaya. For their own safety, the people should keep these curfew passes in their possession and, when challenged, to show them to law and order enforcing agency personnel.

The announcement further said that those passengers coming to Dhaka from outside by air, train, bus, streamers, and other means of transport on arrival should contact law and order enforcing agency personnel nearest their station for necessary assistance.

Curfew Relaxed in Dhaka

BK291723 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The curfew will be relaxed tomorrow in the Dhaka metropolitan area 0600-1500. All government and semigovernment offices and autonomous bodies will work until 1300 tomorrow in the Dhaka metropolitan area. All schools and colleges in the Dhaka metropolitan area will remain closed until next Thursday.

'Illegal' Assembly Banned

BK300434 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] There is no curfew in the Dhaka metropolitan area from 0600 am to 0300 pm today. Government, semingovernment, and autonomous offices in the Dhaka metropolitain area will function until 0100 pm today. Schools and colleges in the Dhaka metropolitan area remain closed till tomorrow.

Meanwhile, an official announcement [word indistinct] yesterday has warned the members of the public against illegal assembly with more than four people on the streets during curfew relaxation hours. Serious measures will be taken against them if they are found indulging in any act of indiscipline violating the law.

'Scores' Arrested in Dhaka

BK291156 Hong Kong AFP in English 1126 GMT 29 Nov 83

[By Golam Tahaboor]

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 29 (AFP) — Stepped-up troop patrols today arrested scores of people on the streets of Dhaka, clamped under a curfew after yesterday's bloody clashes between security forces and anti-martial law demonstrators, witnesses said. Informed sources said security forces raided houses of different political leaders but it could not be confirmed if any were arrested. (Unconfirmed reports reaching New Delhi indicated that some had been rounded up.)

(Radio Bangladesh, monitored by the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA from Agartala, northeast India, said the martial law authorities had ordered security forces to shoot anyone violating the curfew "with no justified excuse." (The radio said that authorities asked people to stay indoors except for a three-hour period from 2 p.m., when the curfew was lifted to allow people to stock up on food and essentials, PTI said.)

Police declined to say how many people they had arrested since the clashes, in which four people were officially reported killed and nearly 300 wounded. Officials last night said 139 people had been arrested during the violence although it was not known if opposition leaders were among them.

Troop patrols were increased since this morning and one eyewitness said that police in a jeep beat up some people on roads. A correspondent who went to police headquarters today for a curfew pass estimated that he saw 200 people detained there.

An hour before the curfew was temporarily lifted, sweepers were brought in to clear up the debris littered around the Government Secretariat from yesterday's four-hour pitched battle. Barricades were hauled down. Police cranes had last night removed burned and battered vehicles, including a police prison van.

Public transport appeared on the street 30 minutes before the curfew break. Buses, cars and pedicabs ferried people to the shops, with hundreds of others hurrying on foot. As people jammed markets and grocery shops to stockup with goods, shoppers complained about short supplies and inflated prices.

Government and semi-government offices, as well as banks and educational institutions in Dhaka and some other towns were closed for today. Witnesses said that a tight security cordon was in place around Dhaka University campus.

Yesterday's violence erupted during a sit-in organized by two political alliances of 22 parties which defied government orders to press their five-point plan for restoration of democracy in Bangladesh. The bloodshed prompted Bangladesh ruler Lieutenant-General Hussain Mohammad Ershad to reimpose a ban on political activity that he had lifted barely two weeks earlier.

Informed sources said that most opposition political leaders stayed away from their homes last night to avoid possible arrest.

Unconfirmed reports said that Begum Khaleda Zia, widow of assassinated President Ziaur Rahman, was under house arrest. Attempts to contact her by telephone failed and her line appeared cut off.

Limited copies of Dhaka newspapers came out this afternoon and sold fast during the three-hour curfew relaxation.

A railway official said most trains left Dhaka this morning but without many passengers. Long-distance coaches due to leave this morning were rescheduled to depart in the afternoon.

Bangladesh Airlines' domestic and regional flights were all cancelled, while some international flights were rescheduled.

In Narayanganj, about 24 km (15 miles) from here, shops closed and little traffic was on the streets following an opposition strike call. Arrests were reported as troops moved into the town to back up police efforts to prevent groups of people, mostly youngsters, from barricading roads.

(PTI reported from Agartala that India's para-military border security forces on the frontier with Bangladesh had been put on maximum alert in response to the unrest in Dhaka.)

Curfew Imposed on Chittagong

BK301219 Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 30 (AFP) — Authorities today clamped a 24-hour curfew on Chittagong, Bangladesh's second city, officials said, after reports that one man was killed and at least two wounded when police fired on anti-government demonstrators.

Normally reliable sources said that the police opened fire in the Agrabad commerical area as a general strike brought the key port city, home of about a million people, to a standstill.

The sources said that marches, demonstrations and strike action had been reported from seven other district towns as political parties continued their protests against the martial law regime of Lieutenant-General Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

In Dhaka, armed security forces strictly enforced a curfew which came into effect at 3 pm (0900 GMT) after a nine-hour break while a round-up of opposition leaders continued.

Official sources said that among those detained was Sheikh Hasina Wajed, elader of the Awami League and daughter of Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh's assassinated founding father.

The league is a major component of a 15-party alliance which spearheaded protests here Monday that sparked violent clashes with security forces. Four people were killed, officials said, and there were reports that about 400 were injured.

This Awami League-led group linked with another alliance of seven parties in Monday's sit-in to press a five-point demand for restoration of democracy in Bangladesh. The parties are objecting to Lt Gen Ershad's plan to hold presidential elections in May and parliamentary elections next November.

Lt Gen Ershad yesterday accused some political parties of trying "to frustrate" the holding of the upcoming Islamic conference here.

Begum Khaleda Zia, widow of assassinated President Ziaur Rahman and leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, was in protective custody, the government disclosed yesterday. She was in good health, it added.

There were reports yesterday that Mrs Zia had been injured. The government statement was seen by observers as aimed at calming any fears for the safety of Mrs Zia in the army, where the president's widow is held in high esteem.

Scores of people, including politi[illegible] party cadres, have been rounded up for involvement in Monday's demonstration and for breaking the curfew, informed sources said.

Lt Gen Ershad imposed the curfew Monday and also reimposed a ban on political activities lifted on November 14.

Also held was Muzaffar Ahmed, chief of the pro-Moscow National Awami Party, the sources said.

Dhaka, venue for a meeting of foreign ministers of the Islamic Conference Organisation next week, remained tense as armed troops, elite border guards and police patrolled the streets and guarded key points.

People profited from the nine-hour curfew relaxation to stock up on rice, vegetables and other items.

Some patrolling trucks carried machine-guns mounted on their cabs. Troops in combat gear set up sandbagged positions in unifished buildings.

Worried crowds gathered outside the headquarters of the Dhaka city martial law administrator seeking news of detained relatives and also for curfew passes.

All government offices, banks and commercial firms closed at 1 pm and streets rapidly emptied as the curfew resumed with no announcement as to when it would be lifted.

Troops were seen by this correspondent clubbing curfew breakers to the ground and bundling them away within minutes of the curfew resumption.

The government warned yesterday that security forces would shoot anyone found on the streets without a valid reason during curfew hours.

Bhiman Airline To Resume Flights 30 November
BK300419 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] An announcement by Bhiman, Bangladesh airline, says all international, regional, and domestic flights of Bhiman will operate on schedule from today. The Bhiman flights scheduled for Dubai and Tanzania today will now leave Dhaka at 0600 pm tomorrow. The Jordan-Tripoli flight left Dhaka but it was delayed by a few hours.

DAWN Reports 'Bangladesh Liberation Front' Formed
GF281220 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Nov 83 p 12

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 21, AFP — "Bangladesh Liberation Front" has been set up in India demanding establishment of a new territory under the nomenclature, "Banglabhumi" to accommodate expatriates from former East Pakistan, now called Bangladesh, according to a news item published in the *NEW NATION*, a daily from Dhaka, says a message received here today. According to the *NEW NATION*, political leaders in Dhaka have termed it as a deep rooted conspiracy against Bangladesh and have expressed the view that it was a gross violation of international norms.

Reportage on Commonwealth Summit Conference

Gandhi, Ramphal News Conference

OW2911447 Delhi Television Service in English 1232 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Press conference by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Commonwealth General Secretary Shridath Ramphal at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi — live]

[Text] Good evening, this is Shashi Kumar from Doordarshan welcoming you again to Vigyan Bhawan, the main hall, where it is a different assembly from the one we had 5 days back on the 23d. That day, when the Commonwealth summit opened with 42 heads of state and government and other delegates, it was an impressive gathering. Today again there are the press corps, almost 800 of them who have converged from different parts of the world, here at Vigyan Bhawan to report the proceedings of the Commonwealth summit.

In a few minutes from now the prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and the secretary general of the Commonwealth, Mr Shridath Ramphal, will field questions from the press. Meanwhile, the Commonwealth executive sessions are over and the final communique has been drafted and a text of it released to the press.

A comprehensive communique, it deals with various aspects — from Cyrpus, Grenada, South Africa on to the Middle East, Southeast Asia, the refugee problem, Afghanistan, Central America, Guyana, Belize, Indian Ocean, South Pacific, Mediterranean, Law of the Sea, international economic cooperation, etc.

There we have the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, taking her place on the dais and next to her is the secretary general, Mr Ramphal.

[Moderator Sharda Prashad] [Words indistinct] this will go on for 45 minutes, the prime minister will have to leave at 1845. The rules of the game are very simple: In order to be recognized please raise the numbered card that is on your desk. That is the number of your microphone. When called by the prime minister, please press the button in front of you and announce your name and that of your agency or journal. Please also clarify whether your question is addressed to the prime minister or to the secretary general. And may I also suggest that you please speak into the microphone, which will be easier if you do not stand up.

The norm is that a correspondent ask only one question and give a chance to another. May I also say that arrangements have been made for simultaneous translation from and into Hindu. Now the first question.

[Gandhi] Sharda Prashad, I think you better take charge and call out who you think lifted their number first; I saw 92.

[Sharda Prashad] Ninety-two.

[Bishop] Mrs Gandhi, John Bishop, Television New Zealand. Can I ask you, bearing in mind what happened at the nonaligned summit and also your own discussions in New York, whether you are now satisfied with the declaration on the economic situation that has come out during this summit?

[Gandhi] I am one of those people who are never completely satisfied because I think that things can always be better. But I think it is quite a good declaration. Our goal, so far as India is concerned, the goal is very clear. But we do realize that we cannot make it in one giant leap and we have to go forward step by step. And I think we have taken a step forward. There is greater awareness now.

[Lombard] Mrs Gandhi, John Lombard from Radio Australia. I wonder if I could ask you about paragraph 23 in the communique dealing with the Middle East and wonder if you could give us your account of what, how that paragraph came to be drafted in the session this morning and why the session or you could not accept the amendment moved by the Australian prime minister, Mr Hawke?

[Gandhi] Well, let me make it clear that we are against any foreign forces staying in any country, any intervention. We have made this clear a number of times in different forums. But there the nonaligned position is that all non-Lebanon forces should withdraw. The Syrian forces went into Lebanon with the consent of the then Lebanese Government. It is the Israelis who were the aggressors.

Our position is that Israeli aggression should be first vacated and all other foreign forces then withdrawn.

[Dickey] John Dickey of the *DAILY MAIL* of London. May I preface my question by thanking you, Madame Prime Minister, for all the warmth of the welcome to the press and the excellence of the arrangements you made for us, even though some of your staff are overzealous in keeping us away from you and the other heads of government. May I also congratulate our secretary general on being with us for another term. My question is basically this, on Grenada: Does the third sentence of paragraph 10 mean in simple English that you would like all foreign forces to leave Grenada as soon as possible?

[Gandhi] Yes, we would.

[(Bhatnagar), in Urdu] (J.B. Bhatnagar), *MOSLEMAN MADRAS*. Respected Prime Minister: Are you confident that the big powers will implement the proposals put forward by the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in New Delhi, and that the small and weak countries facing strength and force will be rid of force and (?coercion)?

[Gandhi, in Hindi] We can only hope that they will implement them. If there is unity among us, our strength will increase from it. Strength is not only of the military or economic type: There are other kinds of strength. This is our effort. You must have seen that there were various types of people at the conference with differing views, but still some decisions were made that took us a few steps farther. This way, some of the world's problems can be solved.

[First unidentified correspondent] This question is to either the prime minister or the secretary general it...

[Gandhi interrupts] I pass it on to the secretary general straight away.

[Correspondent] I beg your pardon. In paragraph 13 in reference to South Africa there is a... [begins reading] The Commonwealth heads of government agreed that there should be an end to all forms of assistance to subversive forces by the South African regime... Do I take it that the fact that there is no similar reference to subversive activities by Cuban and Soviet forces in the Caribbean, do I take it that that means that there was no reference to it in the discussions of the conference?

[Ramphal] No, there was not.

[Second unidentified correspondent] Your Excellency, Madame Prime Minister: What is new in the political stance and the approaches towards world situation taken by this Commonwealth conference in comparison with the previous one?

[Gandhi] With regard to what situation?

[Correspondent] What is new in the political stance and the approaches towards world situation taken by this Commonwealth conference in comparison with the previous one?

[Gandhi] Well, there is nothing specially new about them. We have restated our views and in some areas we have gone some steps forward, and in today's world situation I think that that is all that anybody can do.

[Ramphal] Might I suggest another dimension to you in addition to that: that different voices were saying these same things in New Delhi. Therefore, a rather wider world constituency was coming by a process of convergence to the same points of view.

[O'Neil] Peter O'Neil, Third World, EEC. Mrs Gandhi, the one country that has not been present here but whose intransigence has been behind every debate is the United States. Can I ask you, would you welcome the election of the Reverend Jesse Jackson as the first black American president and, if so, what major changes would you expect in foreign policy in relation to Namibia and the international debt problem?

[Gandhi] Well, wouldn't that be interference in the affairs of another country, to which we are all opposed?

[O'Neil] You would not welcome it then?

[Gandhi] Now that's not at all fair; that's like that good old question: When did you stop beating your wife? It's not a question whether...

[O'Neil interrupts] I can't ask you that. [laughter]

[Gandhi] The question is not what I welcome or not welcome, but I do not think it is proper for me to comment on the internal affairs of any state in this matter, especially in the matter of elections. Certainly we stand for certain policies and there is no doubt that we would like a change in some of the policies which the administration of the USA is now following with regard to South Africa, with regard to Israel, and with regard to ourselves, primarily, too.

[(Offenbach)] (Offenbach), NETHERLANDS PRESS ASSOCIATION. Madame Prime Minister: Don't you think that the rather moderate Delhi statement on economic action might weaken the developing nations' position in the North-South dialogue given the far more radical demands made during the nonaligned meeting? For instance, a new international economic order is no longer mentioned.

[Gandhi] Well, we tried to reach a consensus. Now, as I said in answer to, I think, the very first question, we, what we want, are certain changes and I think it is universally recognized now that the international financial institutions came into being at a time when the world was very different. Now the world has changed. Many more countries are free and the economic situation, the economic crises — not only in the developing countries but in industrialized countries — all these are new phenomena, and these, the present institutions, I am not criticizing them, because they have helped us and they still are trying to help us, but we feel they are limited in certain ways by their own structure and that is what we wanted to change. But if you cannot get a total change, it is better to try and see what can be done gradually.

Now at this conference, I think there was a major advance in that, as the secretary general said just now, that certain people who were earlier opposed to any type of change have agreed now that these matters should be studied, and we should find ways of how these institutions can be made more effective and how they can better help those who are truly in need of help.

[(Offenbach)] You don't think it does weaken the developing nations' stand, though?

[Gandhi] I do not think it does because we have not given up any stand. We know what our goal is, but it is a question of how we proceed towards it. I think that the secretary general would like to say a word.

[Ramphal] Yes, I would like to invite you to recognize the character of the communique, that it did not set out to be a statement of positions and policies across the whole range of international economic issues. It was a much more focused discussion and a much more focused presentation in the communique on the particular issue of the international financial and monetary system and the trade linkages with it and a need for change in the direction of a new Bretton Woods; and in those terms the policy statement and the process recommendations are, of course, very complimentary to what the Third World has been seeking. Indeed this represents one of the first practical steps being taken on a North-South basis in the direction of the objectives that were outlined for example in the Nonaligned communique, particularly with regard to the international conference.

[Gandhi] May I also add that you know we have been talking about universal participation, and in this document it states that all countries affected must be directly involved in the discussions and decisionmaking. Now this is a very big step forward.

[Adiam] Bishli Adiam is my name; I represent *DAILY TIMES* of Nigeria. Madame Prime Minister: According to Paragraph 16 of the communique, the heads of government agreed that Namibia was the most immediate of the remaining issues of southern Africa. May I know what practical steps you have been taking to enforce the Security Council Resolution 435, 1978?

[Ramphal] The question, as I understand, is what practical steps are being taken to enforce.... Well, of course it is not wholly within the competence of the Commonwealth to take those practical steps. What was being done was to reinforce the processes of the United Nations; 435 represents, essentially, a UN process. Commonwealth countries, both at a level of the frontline states and Nigeria and of the Western contact group play an important part in Commonwealth action. And what is stated in Paragraph 16 represents a very substantial joint commitment to the fulfillment of those objectives.

[Rangarajan] This is Rangarajan of UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA]. In the joint communique there is no reference to the United States, which was the principle aggressor in Grenada — number one. Two: The word invasion itself is not used. Is it because of opposition from a section of the conference to such a firm reference, or is it because after hearing a full account of the East Caribbean countries there is a kind of a reappraisal of the situation on the part of the summit leaders, therefore the whole attitude has softened?

[Gandhi] Well, there was a division of opinion on this. As you know that within the Caribbean itself there is a division. What words are used depends on our trying to reach a consensus. We don't usually use very strong language or anything like that. I should have preferred an explicit call for unconditional withdrawal of all foreign forces, as we consider — we, that is India considers — what has happened there as disturbing and a warning to all countries small, not so small, and even some that I would call big countries.

[Manupathal, in Hindi] Madame Prime Minister: How close or far apart than before have the discussions that took place in this conference behind closed doors and in an atmosphere of deep differences and (?quiet tension) brought the two groups of the Commonwealth — one nonaligned with numerical and (?moral) strength and the other (?industrialized) and believing in military alliances?

[Gandhi in Hindi] Now it is very difficult to say as to how close those countries have come or how far off they have gone, but if people with divergent views sit together and discuss matters in friendly atmosphere, I think that alone is a very significant event in today's world.

[Ramphal] I wonder if I could just add a little to that. One very significant thing that happened at this conference was that political declaration that was issued at Goa which represented probably the first — certainly the first in very many years — statements between countries as divergent as you suggest on the troubles facing the world at the level of international security, and the issue of joint call for action, and a particular kind of political action by way of dialogue that would redress it. Some ofthese things have been said before; they have seldom been said by these voices together.

[Gandhi] May I add, because her question was about the industrialized and the nonindustrialized, that it was one of the countries of the so-called West who championed very lucidly and eloquently in the economic sphere for instance, for economic reform, and presented our case; that is, the case of the developing countries.

[Mills] Mrs Gandhi: John Mills from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. How did you argue that the presence of Syrian troops in Lebanon could be justified and tacitly condoned or even ignored by this meeting when it is the desire of the present Government of Lebanon that those Syrian forces withdraw. I refer, of course, to the dispute you had this morning with the Australian prime minister, Mr Hawke.

[Ramphal] Before the prime minister answers I think we should correct what seems to be a conception among you, or among some members of the press, that this was a dispute between Mr Hawke and Mrs Gandhi. That was by no means the case. There were a number of heads of delegations who shared the view Mrs Gandhi [words indistinct] just now, there were some who shared the view of Mr Hawke. So I hope you do not present it in terms of some kind of personal battle.

[Gandhi] Well, there is a difference in perception of the situation in what you call the Middle East and we call West Asia. But the question is not a limited one of whether we approve; we do not approve of any forces, as I said. The Syrian forces were invited by a previous government. But the real question is that it is a very explosive situation; it has been explosive. It poses grave dangers to all of us, especially, who live in Asia, but perhaps all over the world, and that is why on matters like this I think that one has to find ways which will not aggravate that situation, and we thought that taking any other view other than what we were taking would lead to added tension and so on.

[Mills] Mrs Gandhi, I am sorry....

[Gandhi interrupts] Or certainly would not calm down the situation.

[Mills] Mrs Gandhi, I am sorry, could you answer the question of how Syria, the presence of Syrian troops, can be justified, condoned, or even ignored when the present government wants them out?

[Gandhi] You know, as I said earlier, it is a very complicated situation there. I cannot go into the history of the whole thing because who asked who in and why, and what are the consequences — all these things have to be considered, and the first thing is that the Israeli forces must move out. I am not condoning the presence of any forces and I don't justify the presence of any forces. But I do think that Israeli aggression must be vacated first. That is the only part of it.

[Pinder] Prime Minister, Pinder of REUTER. Paragraph 16 says that if South Africa continues to obstruct independence for Namibia the adoption of appropriate measures under the Charter of the UN will have to be considered. Can you give some

indication of what the Commonwealth thinks appropriate measures might be?

[Gandhi] I think I will pass that on to the secretary general.

[Ramphal] The Commonwealth speaks through its communique. I think that language is familiar to you. It is language that has not so long ago been used in relevant United Nations resolutions. Of course it speaks in terms of stronger action and that is a course that is being imposed on the international community by the intransigence of South Africa. That is what the Commonwealth is talking about.

[Unintelligible interjection]

[Ramphal] No, I cannot be more specific and it would not be right to be more specific because when the United Nations moves as the Commonwealth is signaling here, it might need to move in the direction of stronger measures, then it will be for consideration within the community what those measures should be. And the Commonwealth will play its role in that process.

[George] Madame Prime Minister: The communique, the statement on....

[Sharda Prashad interrupts] Your name and paper.

[George] My name is George from the *FINANCIAL EXPRESS*. In the statement on economic affairs we find that perhaps you have compromised your position as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement since you are also the chairman of the Commonwealth. How do you account for this compromising position?

[Gandhi] I thought I just explained in detail that we did not consider it a compromising situation.

[Dharmrajan] Hello, I am Dhamrajan of PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA]. Did the question of Pakistan's reentry into the Commonwealth figure at the summit?

[Ramphal] No.

[Third unidentified correspondent] You have emphasized the stopping of arms race in your inaugural speech and everywhere; wherever you have gone you have emphasized this point. How you are feeling about the CHOGM [Commonwealth heads of government meeting] conference that it will really give a big impact on those friendly countries who are really believing in this arms race and they are not trying to covet the world peace as you have decided? [sentence as heard]

[Gandhi] Well, as I have said earlier, that you have to sometimes keep on knocking at the door and one day it will open.

[Ramphal] But how can you say that in the light of the political declaration which calls specifically for a stopping of the arms race?

[Duggal] I am Jail Duggal, chief correspondent, *NATIONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE*. My question is addressed to both the Madame Prime Minister and the secretary general. The political issues being faced within the Commonwealth countries as well as the world occupied the heaviest agenda during the meet, and the same seems to be during the press conference. I want to specifically ask that there is a lot of talk of sharing the wealth between the Commonwealth countries. So can you say that there was some precise or specific talk of sharing the wealth between the rich countries like Canada, Australia, and Britain, with the poorest countries like Bangladesh and others within the Commonwealth? I know they are doing a lot already, but was there discussion to do something more than what they are already doing, which is very important in the present day.

[Ramphal] Well, yes at two levels. First of all, at the level of the things that are done within the Commonwealth: The entire discussion this morning was about Commonwealth functional cooperation, the Commonwealth's own programs of technical assistance, of helping each other, and so on, in which of course the richer Commonwealth countries carry a big part of the financial burden. But in addition to that, the great value and in many ways the long-term value of this kind of dialogue between developed and developing countries in the Commonwealth is to try to advance more progressive positions at the level of the international dialogue for fundamental economic change. And when you read the declaration that was issued last night, the New Delhi Statement on Economic Action, I think you will recognize that the Commonwealth has agreed to take action together in this direction and the group of countries that form the consultative group will really be embarking on a process of consultation designed to explore the possibilities of real change and real change with a sense of urgency. So that is really a very fundamental development.

[Correspondent's name indistinct] [Name indistinct], *THE TIMES*. I would like to know what is the outcome of the mission of Canadian prime minister, Mr Pierre Trudeau, to Beijing.

[Gandhi] Well he is not back yet, you know. [laughs]

[Zhegalov] I'm Leonid Zhegalov, *NEW TIMES*, Moscow. Madame Prime Minister: In his time, Jawaharlal Nehru, in joining the Commonwealth, wanted actually to instill the dreams and aspirations of the Third World into the activity of this organization. Now, do you think that the success of the conference — which was really with a difference — has made his dreams come true?

[Gandhi] Well, you know, dreams don't come true that easily. And I think that with each meeting the effort is to take one step forward. I think that perhaps we have been doing that. It's a... the Commonwealth being such a mixed body, obviously everybody doesn't share the same perceptions, as people have their own problems in their countries and their own opinions of strategies, of dangers, and so on. But it is a forum where people, where these perceptions can be made known to one another and, I think, create a better understanding and that is a success of such meetings. Also, of course some positive steps are taken.

[Waldridge] Mike Waldridge, BBC. Mrs Gandhi, I wonder if I could persuade you to be a little more specific than that. What do you regard as the most substantial achievements of this summit, and do you end it with any sense of disappointment at

all? I'm thinking, perhaps, of Namibia, on which you yourself had pinned hopes of a breakthrough in your opening address.

[Gandhi] No, I think our statement on Namibia is a good one and those most concerned,that is, Namibia's neighbors, the frontline states, African nations, they were fully satisfied with it. Now, I don't think that we can say we are disappointed with that. It's difficult to say which particular statement is more satisfactory than another, because they're all in quite different areas. But the success of any such conference is the very fact that it meets, that different people from different regions meet together and get to know the problems better at first hand of other countries. And I think that, just as Zimbabwe's independence was helped by the Commonwealth and by the United Kingdom, also, well, in that way, you see, it's a constant effort. I don't think that you can say that, well, suddenly we've achieved this; it's a constant effort through which you hope to get nearer to various goals.

[Waldridge] Could I just ask you, then, what you would want this summit to be remembered for?

[Gandhi] Well [turning to Ramphal], what would you say? I think it's more... that this question should really be addressed to the secretary general.

[Ramphal] Well, when I spoke at the opening, I ended my speech with a little remembrance of [Indian poet Rabindranath] Tagore, and he was talking of a lantern in the hands of people. I think there has been something of a lantern from New Delhi, both in the wide international political area, where Western countries, nonaligned countries found a common voice on their great concerns about peace and disarmament and international security. And in the economic area, where, as Mrs Gandhi has been saying, a small but important step has been taken along the road towards practical action in the area of change. Well these are very significant developments, particularly when they come, not on the basis of just the demand, but on agreement that we can move forward in certain directions.

[Kekley] Thank you. Am I audible? Patrick Kekley, *THE GUARDIAN*, London. Chairman, all my points that I was going to ask have already been asked, except one, by other correspondents. But, as the secretary general just said, the communique speaks for itself. The communique, however, is silent on something I think we would all like to know about, and that is: what was it like in the hot box, in the little room where you all met, shoulder to shoulder, elbow to elbow? Do you think that perhaps the chairman of the conference and you, Secretary General, could lower your guard just a little and tell us what it was like in the room about which the communique says nothing?

[Gandhi, laughing] Well, you expect the communique.... I think there's nothing very secret about what happened there. We sat around the table; we spoke in a friendly, frank manner; we interrupted one another if necessary. Most people addressed others by their first names. I mean, that's indicative of the atmosphere of the room and of the discussions.

[Ramphal] Patrick, you and I have been through many of these conferences. I put this very high among those which achieved a remarkable level of frankness — real frankness, there was no attempt just to be courteous — frankness, but in a spirit of friendship and a spirit that was freed of rancor. And that was true of the discussions around the table here and it was true of the discussions — and there were many of them — that went on in Goa. We achieved also something of a breakthrough in a sustained pattern of free exchange, no reading of speeches; leaders really were talking to each other and trying to get through to each other. Sometimes failing, many times succeeding.

[Gupta] Madame, Ranjan Gupta. I wanted to ask you does the position on Grenada sufficiently reflect India's point of view, considering your statement that you wanted a United Nations force representing all shades of opinion to be in Grenada? In being a good host, has India compromised on a lot of its principles at this conference, Madame?

[Gandhi] We have not compromised on any principles. We may have changed a word, accepted a word here or there, as I said earlier, that we would have preferred a more explicit call for unconditional withdrawal, but I don't think it weakens our position in any way, because ultimately we tried to have a consensus; I mean, if there was anything that was very contrary to what we wanted to say we would have expressed our disagreement.

[Ramphal] I'd like to invite you to pay attention to those words in Paragraph 9 on Grenada, which recalled the views that the countries around the table have themselves expressed at the United Nations. It was clear in the conversations, both in New Delhi and in Goa, that these were views to which those countries adhered. What they were doing was then looking forward to ways in which the situation could be resolved consistent with the principles that Mrs Gandhi was standing up for all along.

[Fourth unidentified correspondent] I wonder if the prime minister or the secretary general could tell us something about the first meeting which we understood took place today of the group on Cyprus and what the group or the Commonwealth may do, what action it may take when so many people have failed over so many years to try to resolve this problem?

[Ramphal] Well, the first thing to say about it, of course, is that it was very much a preliminary meeting, but it was a token of the seriousness of the group itself and the urgency of the mandate that the leaders of the five countries that were designated as members of the group met immediately after our closing session and had, where they were available, their foreign ministers with them. I will be communicating the results of the conference and the establishment of the group to the UN secretary general, making it clear that the group is in the service of the international community in this matter; and then we will be looking ahead to coordinate an action between the countries later on in December to carry forward the mandate of the conference.

[Fifth unidentified correspondent] Madame, may I take up a basic question on this concept of a consensus. The resolutions on Grenada and on the economc aspect do show that in the search for a consensus, much of the giving is done by those who are crying out for justice, I presume and for a better deal, while those who are powerful, who are the aggressors, against whom the whole thing is supposed to be, do much of the taking. Would it

imply that in the search for consensus they have an attitude that they can take it or leave it alone, while you, for the concern of unity and things of the sort, persist in giving and giving and giving?

[Gandhi] No, you may not take it that way. As I said earlier, when I was asked a question about the economic issue, that we have not compromised on any economic issue. India stands fully and firmly with other nonaligned countries on all economic issues. The same is true of southern Africa and of the other issues. On the one issue where there was some disagreement, we have expressed our disagreement very strongly.

[Sixth unidentified correspondent] Madame Prime Minister, I have seen in some of the English-Language Indian newspapers some criticism that India, in hosting this conference, is spending money that it cannot afford. It was described as a colossal waste. Now, as a beneficiary over the last 6 or 7 days of your warm hospitality and really very efficient and friendly facilities for the media, I would like to ask a question in two parts. One: How much money was spent on this conference; and two: what is your comment on this allegation of colossal waste that India cannot afford? Thank you.

[Gandhi] Well, this is a question of an attitude. What do you get out of a conference; what do you get out of meeting world leaders; what the country gets out of having these questions posed before it, not just something happening far away at the United Nations or somewhere else but right in the heart of the country? Now, I think that is an important thing for the people. We have not spent a great deal of money; in fact we've tried to be very strict with expenditure, and much of the money that is spent is a long-term investment; I mean it doesn't go away with the conference. You may go away, but the facilities we create for you stay on here, and they're useful for future conferences. In fact, this particular conference could save a lot of money, because we had the nonaligned earlier and all these facilities were created then. So, I think that it is important for a capital like Delhi to have such facilities.

[Seventh unidentified correspondent] Madame Prime Minister, is your principal policy on the UDI in north Cyprus compatible with the views of Islamic states within and outside the Commonwealth? In fact it is on the cards that Pakistan and Bangladesh may soon accord recognition to the breakaway regime.

[Ramphal] What is the question?

[Correspondent] Is your principled policy on UDI in north Cyprus compatible with the views of Islamic states within and outside the Commonwealth?

[Gandhi] Well, actually, up to now, only one country has recognized.

[Correspondent] That's Turkey.

[Gandhi] That's Turkey, no other country has.

[Correspondent] But they said that it is on the cards that Pakistan and Bangladesh may accord....

[Gandhi interrupts] Well, why don't we wait and see what they'll do?

[Correspondent] What will be your reaction when they really actually do it?

[Gandhi] Well, I ... as I said, we'll have to wait and see what they do before we react to it.

[Jeet] Indra Jeet, INDIA NEWS AND FEATURE ALLIANCE. President Kaunda, we believe, put forward a proposal for a Commonwealth peace mission to be sent to Moscow and Washington. The idea fitted in, it seems, with the statesmanship shown by Prime Minister Nehru, President Tito, and others at the first nonaligned summit in Belgrade in 1961. The then summit sent a special peace mission to Moscow and Washington, and this comprised Prime Minister Nehru and Prime Minister Nkrumah. Would you like to share with us the reasons which led the CHOGM, the New Delhi CHOGM to drop this excellent idea put forward by Dr Kaunda? Thank you.

[Ramphal] Well, first of all, I wouldn't accept that the idea has been dropped. If you read the last sentence of the relevant paragraph of the political declaration, you will see that the leaders have said very specifically that we are willing to help these and other such efforts in all appropriate ways. Now, accompanying Mr Trudeau to Beijing wasn't necessarily the appropriate way at the moment, but this is a long process and the Commonwealth was signalling that it was prepared here to take some collective action in the right way at the right time.

[Patiar] Patiar from *THE HINDU*. This question relates to the Goa declaration. The reference is to the need for resuming a general political dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States, and the hope is expressed that there'll be practical contribution by the Commonwealth. So, does it mean that we should expect a collective move in this regard to ensure the continuity of negotiations and all that?

[Ramphal] Well, the Commonwealth doesn't always act in a collective way. It quite often acts through its member countries. Now, what that was signalled was a willingness to share in this burden, and whether it is a mission of the kind undertaken by Mr Trudeau or it is a joint effort, it remains a Commonwealth action in furtherance of these ideas, in furtherance of this commitment. And I hope that such action does lie down the road.

[Patiar] Is there an operational part to this resolve, let's say any operational part?

[Ramphal] Well, it's an operational intent. It's not an operational timetable.

[Mansjoshi, in Hindi] Mansjoshi from *SAPTAHIK HINDUSTAN [HINDUSTAN WEEKLY]* Madame Prime Minister, can you describe what was the greatest achievement and the biggest failure of this conference?

[Gandhi, in Hindi] I have answered this question many times, that it is of great benefit to meet and discuss important issues facing the world. This is the greatest achievement. And I do not

think there was anything about which we can say that success was not achieved. It is obvious that we can say something on every issue and perhaps we may be able to do something. But many of the problems facing us have been there for years. All people are trying to solve them and we too want to exert our efforts.

[Kandira] Masori Kandira, Malawi Broadcasting. Madame Prime Minister, the hope had been expressed at the opening ceremonies that Delhi might lead to an independent Namibia, as Lusaka led to independent Zimbabwe. The question is, Madame Prime Minister, what was the basis for that splendid optimism which was apparent at the opening ceremonies regarding the specific question of Namibia which is not so apparent in the Delhi communique.

[Gandhi] Well, there no basis as such for such hopes. When you're in public life, you have to be an optimist, or indeed not only in public life, I think anybody in the world today has to be an optimist. There are many grim problems. So far as Namibia is concerned or the problems of southern Africa, our stand has been very strong and consistent throughout the years and we are still committed to its full freedom and sovereignty, and we shall keep on struggling for it and giving it all the support that we can.

[Manusof] Madame Prime Minister, Yeti Manusof, *BERITA HARIAN*, Singapore. In paragraph concerning Angola, there is a mention that the Cuban troops are there on invitation of the government and therefore are not breaching the principle of noninterference. My question is: Do you think the presence of the Americans, Italians, and the French troops in Lebanon on invitation of the government should be considered as the same as the Cubans in Angola?

[Gandhi] I thought I'd answered that a little while ago, that the two situations are not at all on a par. The situation in the Middle East is the result of many things that have happened over the years for a long period, and it is getting more and more explosive, literally as well as otherwise, and I don't think the two situations can be compared.

[Band] I am Kapal Band, Tribune group of papers. There are several countries in the Commonwealth, they raise the issue of regional security. This is actually revival of military pacts like SEATO and NATO. Why the Commonwealth has not come out on this issue with any discernable decision? And how to protect the security of the smaller countries and in what way?

[Gandhi] Actually we have mentioned it in the communique. The secretary general will tell you about it.

[Ramphal] We addressed the question, you will realize, in the context of small states, and the Secretariat has been mandated to undertake a study of this, but in that context: How do you help very small states of 100,000 people and less to manage national security in our kind of world. But there was no suggestion whatever, there was no undertone of any kind of that, that the way for it lay in military pacts with major powers. The question was being posed in the context of what can small countries do to help themselves, particularly within archipelago regions like the Caribbean and the South Pacific.

[Flom] My name is Flom, ADN NEWS AGENCY, GDR. Madame Prime Minister, the political declaration calls for concerted efforts toward international security. Do you think that the forthcoming conference in Stockholm might be an opportunity for the resumption of the East-West dialogue?

[Gandhi] Might be an opportunity for what?

[Flom] For the resumption of the East-West dialogue.

[Gandhi] Well, we're for the resumption of the dialogue and we hope that the present atmosphere of increasing confrontation will somehow be reversed and we'll come back to the days when people could talk with greater — what shall I say — less reckless suspicion and mistrust of one another.

[Narayan] Venkata Narayan from *INDIA TODAY*. Madame, in your inaugural speech, you had referred to the Lusaka CHOGM and had said that what Lusaka did to Zimbabwe, New Delhi might do to Namibia. But in case of Zimbabwe, the case is entirely different in the sense that Britain was a member of the Commonwealth but here you're dealing with a state which is neither member of the United Nations nor a member of the nonaligned community nor the Commonwealth. Don't you think, this being the situation, it's going to be that much more difficult? And how exactly are you planning to bring about a change in Namibia?

[Gandhi] You're quite right in saying the situation is quite different, and it certainly is much, much more difficult, especially as South Africa is being supported by several countries. All we can do is to raise our voice against the apartheid, racist policies and the grave injustice being done to the majority population there and to help them in their struggle towards freedom. The African countries, the frontline states themselves, have been active and have suffered because of it. I can't give a specific plan, but I think we need to educate the people in some of these Western countries and others who are supporting South Africa as to what it means, because on the one hand, we are given lectures on democracy, for instance, equal rights, human rights, and so on. So, I think that the one thing to do, and this was mentioned at our conference, is to give the truth about what is happening in southern Africa all over the world so that the voice of reason prevails. And justice.

[Eighth unidentified correspondent] My question is to secretary general, perhaps more relevantly. In the final, fourth paragraph of the communique, you have described the range of subjects which have been discussed in this conference. In one of the earlier CHOGM documents you had mentioned that primary importance also will be given to civic rights and questions of people's freedom. Now, in this conference the total drift has been towards peace, security, and others. It is, say a case of omission why the question of totalitarianism and people's freedom has not been mentioned in this communique?

[Ramphal] Yes, I'm not sure what earlier documents you are referring to?

[Correspondent] In the first CHOGM you have mentioned the problem of civic rights and human rights and freedom of the

people vis-a-vis totalitarian regimes. There is a mention. Is it an omission...?

[Ramphal interrupts] When you say the first one, you mean the regional conference that was held here?

[Correspondent] Well, one of the conferences was here, but the question is, the reference is not important, substance is important.

[Ramphal] Well, then if you ask the question by itself without suggesting that there was any departure from something established before....

[Correspondent interrupts] It is not a departure. I'm saying it is an omission. Is it a deliberate omission? I'm not saying departure.

[Ramphal] No, no. I started by telling you that the heads of government at this meeting took a very careful and pointed decision that they would not aim to cover the whole field of rights of wrongs, of injustices, of troubled situations in the world, but would try, as far as possible, to focus on matters of the most critical significance on which they thought they might make an impact. I don't think anyone could complain that peace and security, disarmament, does not represent one of those matters of the highest importance. All that making practical progress in the area of redressing poverty and imbalance in the world is in such an area. Now, of course, we could go into the whole field of human rights, but that would have been almost a different kind of conference.

[Offenbach] Offenbach again, NETHERLANDS PRESS ASSOCIATION. Madame, Prime Minister, given the extreme buildup of arms between the Soviet Union and the United States and the buildup of tension as well, do you think there is going to be another Commonwealth conference at all? [laughter]

[Gandhi] Well, you and we share this concern. I certainly hope there will be. You know, mankind or any species' tremendous urge for survival. I think, I think it is a little difficult to suppress that. And while we do seem to be drifting or deliberately going towards the brink, we've found in human history that humankind has either retraced its steps or evolved in such a way as to meet the new challenges. So, we can only hope that we will evolve in wisdom, in better understanding, better cooperation and reversing this trend of the armaments race, of confrontation, of domination, and all the other things which are making life difficult for all the world and more so for the poorest and the weakest. So, let's hope that we will meet again and may I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am glad you had a good stay in India. I hope you are returning with greater understanding of not just of what we were able to do in Delhi, but of the enormous problems which India faces and how we have been tackling them, and of what considerable success we have had. Of course, we are fully aware of the shortcomings as well of the obstacles in our way and even the mistakes we have made. But in spite of all that, we are going ahead, and this is what gives us hope that in other areas also: That if we can conquer those tremendous odds, well, so can everybody else, and so can the human race as a whole. the secretary general would like to say a few words.

[Ramphal] My friends, the reason that I appear with the chairman of our conference on this final occasion is really because all her other colleagues would more than fill the stage and and couldn't speak in response to all your questions as two persons can. But that does mean that I should try to convey to you some aspects of the collective sense with which they leave Delhi tonight and tomorrow. And the first of those — If Mrs Gandhi will permit me and if it would not embarrass her to have me say it — is the tremendous sense of satisfaction with her chairmanship, with this great mix of patience and pertinacity, of gentleness and of great strength. She steered this meeting through to what they all believe to be very worthy conclusions — conclusions worthy in themselves, discussions that were worthy in themselves, and and a great sense of satisfaction with the Government of India. Some of you have talked of being beneficiaries of the quality of the service that your colleagues in India have provided.

In the Secretariat we have worked with India for nearly 2 years now in the preparations for this conference. We are professionals, in a sense, in this field, and we know a good thing when we see it. India was a good thing. The help we got, the care that went into every aspect of the arrangements, here in New Delhi, at Goa, at the hotel, the services that were provided to the media — all of this represented a very challenging standard for any future Commonwealth conference.

We all feel we owe a deep debt of gratitude, of course, to the government, but to those people who were very closely involved:

The CHOGM task force under the Minister Mr Singh Deo; and, of course, with the help of so many people, the chief of protocol, Mr Lamba who was so much in the heart of the nuts and bolts organization. But above them and with them all and coordinating them all, Mr Natvar Singh, here in Delhi, in conversations in London, in the whole process of preparation and of fulfillment, he has been a friend and a counsel and a guide of the most excellent quality.

And finally, I think, all the heads of government would wish me to say to the media, the foreign press who came in such very large numbers and whose stories — perhaps I have seen more of them than you have yourselves — but whose stories have been in all the major media outlets of the world on the conference, to say how grateful we are that you shared in the occasion. I said when I spoke to you at the beginning that you are a part of the conference because it is through you that we must hope to reach the people of the world with anything that was worthy in the conclusions of the conference.

And, rather specially, to the Indian media. Seldom have we held a Commonwealth conference in a Commonwealth capital where the local media have given us such tremendous support. You were not always uncritical, but you were always fair, and you were never failing in your willingness to give projection, to give space, to give time to what was going on. For all of that, we are in your debt. All the heads of government who are here feel indebted, and they would wish me to convey it to you.

[Gandhi] Thank you very much. [applause]

Communique Cited

BK291649 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The Commonwealth heads of government have expressed grave concern over the increasing tendency toward interference and intervention by political and economic means in the internal affairs of other states. In a communique issued after the weeklong summit in New Delhi today, they condemned the declaration of independence by the Turkish Cypriots and called upon all states not to recognize it. They also expressed their solidarity with President Kiprianou of Cyprus. Fully endorsing the Security Council's resolution in this regard, the leaders agreed to set up a special action group to ensure proper enforcement of the resolution. The group will consist of Australia, Guyana, India, Nigeria, and Zambia.

On Grenada, they call for strict observance of the principles of independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. They welcomed the setting up of an interim civilian administration in the island. They also noted its intention to hold an early elections and observed that the international community would oversee that the elections are free and fair.

Recalling the special needs of small states, they requested the secretary general, Mr Ramphal, to undertake a study of such needs in consonance with the right to sovereignty and territorial integrity enjoyed by those states.

Expressing their indignation at repeated acts of aggression by South Africa, the heads of government felt that the international community have an obligation to impose restraint on South Africa. They called for immediate independence of Namibia, firmly rejecting any attempt to link this issue with the withdrawal of the Cuban forces. The declaration reiterated that the South African troops should be withdrawn from Angola immediately and agreed that only the eradication of apartheid and establishment of majority rule on the basis of free and fair adult franchise can lead to a just solution to the problems facing the region.

Referring to the Gleneagles declaration of 1970 on sporting contacts with South Africa, the leaders urged all sportsmen of the Commonwealth to continue the boycott.

On West Asia, most of them reaffirmed their view that the Palestinian Liberation Organization is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and it must be involved in all negotiation for a settlement. They also supported the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon.

The leaders reaffirmed the right of the people of Kampuchea to determine their own destiny free from foreign interference and subversion and called for a political settlement of the problem.

On Afghanistan, the declaration calls for a negotiated political settlement on the basis of withdrawal of foreign troops and full respect for the independence, sovereignty, and nonaligned status of the country.

The heads of government noted with concern the escalation of tension in Central America. They were unhappy that, despite the expressed wishes of all concerned states and the adoption of the UN declaration, there has been further increase in the military presence and rivalry of outside powers in the Indian Ocean.

Referring to the economic situation, the leaders noted that most countries are suffering from stagnation, unemployment, and inflation, weakening of international monetary, financial, and trading systems. They were of the opinion that the Bretton Woods institutions have to be adapted and better equipped to cope with conditions of the 80's and beyond.

The heads of government also called upon the international community to take urgent and comprehensive action to deal with the problems facing the world economy. They set up a consultative group to pursue the matter. The group will promote a consensus on major financial issues and consider the most effective ways of taking action. It will consist of Britain, Canada, Fiji, India, New Zealand, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zimbabwe.

The All-India Radio correspondent says that the communique released today is a comprehensive document which announces the Commonwealth views on food and agriculture, population, technical cooperation, and other concerned subjects, in addition to the major political and economic issues.

The communique also refers to the Goa declaration on international security which calls upon the United States and the Soviet Union to work for a genuine political diologue between themselves. Expressing alarm over the heightened tensions and continued buildup of nuclear arsenals, the leaders rededicated themselves to work for more peaceful international environment.

The next meeting of the Commonwealth heads of government will be held in the Bahamas.

AFP Report

BK291325 Hong Kong AFP in English 1254 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 29 (AFP) — Commonwealth heads of government today wound up their week-long meeting with a strong condemnation of Washington and Pretoria for frustrating the hopes of early independence for Namibia.

The summit's final statement said heads of government "reflecting the view of the international community as a whole, firmly rejected any attempt to link the independence of Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops" from Angola as proposed by South Africa, backed by the United States.

The communique, which devoted two full pages to the southern African situation, placing it top of the summit's priorities on the world political scene, warned that any attempts to undermine the United Nations' "central role" negotiating Namibian independence "strikes at the fabric of international order." The statement urged members of the Western contact group — Britain, Canada, United States, France and West Germany — to exercise their influence to secure the "speedy and unconditional implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibian independence. The resolution calls for an end to

hostilities, a withdrawal by South African troops and free elections under U.N. supervision. The Commonwealth leaders said that if Pretoria continued to obstruct the implementation of Resolution 435 the "adoption of appropriate measures under the U.N. Charter will have to be considered."

The statement identified apartheid as the root cause of repression and violence in South Africa and of instability in the southern African region. But establishment of majority rule on the basis of free and fair exercise of universal adult suffrage by all people in a united and non-fragmented South Africa could lead to a just and lasting solution of the "explosive situation," it said.

The Commonwealth leaders called for the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and an end to all forms of assistance to subversive forces, in a reference to the South African-backed UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] guerrillas.

The summit urged stricter enforcement of the U.N. mandatory arms embargo, so as to ensure there were no loopholes in the implementation of the 1977 U.N. Security Council resolution.

Turning to sporting links with Pretoria, the statement called on sportsmen to continue to boycott South Africa, and urged them not to be tempted by the financial inducements being offered. The statement said that sport in South Africa could not be genuinely multiracial until apartheid itself was eliminated. The statement upheld the Commonwealth's commitment to the 1977 Gleneagles agreement banning sporting links with South Africa.

Summit Closes 29 Nov

OW300051 Delhi Television Service in English 1615 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] After 1 week of deliberations, consisting of several formal and informal sessions, the Commonwealth heads of state and government concluded their summit here in New Delhi today with one final communique, two resolutions — one dealing with international security and the other with economic action — and three working groups to go into specific problem areas. The text of the communique, issued a short while back, is a comprehensive document which reflects the various issues to which commonwealth leaders applied their minds this past week.

On Cyprus, the Commonwealth leaders condemn the unilateral declaration of independence by the Turkish Cypriot authorities as legally invalid and call for its immediate withdrawal and nonrecognition.

The section on Grenada lays emphasis on reconstruction rather than recrimination and welcomes the interim civilian administration there, calling meanwhile for free and fair elections at an early date. Special mention is made of security of small states and about their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Expressing grave concern on the deteriorating situation in South Africa, the heads of state and government identified apartheid as a root cause and expressed indignation at the repeated violation by South Africa of the territorial integrity of the neighboring states. They were all agreed that immediate problem in South Africa with Namibia and that it should not be linked with the issue of withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. [sentence as heard]

Concern was also expressed on the situation of flux in Central America, on the Guyana-Venezuela conflict, and on the problem between Belize and Guatemala.

The heads voiced their disappointment of the continued buildup of military rivalry in the Indian Ocean endangering the peace and stability of that area.

The heads reviewed the developments in the world economy, paying particular attention to monetary and financial issues, protectionism, and the North-South dialogue.

Points arising from the communique as well as other issues were clarified at the joint press conference by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and the secretary general of the Commonwealth, Mr Shridath Ramphal.

Leaders Express Satisfaction

BK300922 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Commonwealth leaders have expressed satisfaction over the successful conclusion of their summit in New Delhi. Talking to the All-India Radio correspondent, Ramesh Kashyap, at the Delhi airport before leaving for home, some of the leaders said that they were very happy with the consensus reached at the summit. They praised Mrs Gandhi for the way she conducted the proceedings.

Prime Minister Mugabe of Zimbabawe and Prime Minister Mintoff of Malta expressed the hope that the process for the independence of Namibia will be accelerated. Prime Minister Jugnauth of Mauritius was of the view that the summit would provide a new impetus to the efforts for reducing international tensions. He said he was anxious to ensure that the Indian Ocean is free from conflicts and was optimistic about an early convening of the UN conference on making the area a zone of peace.

The Nigerian president, Mr Shehu Shagari, admired the tremendous progress made by India in the field of agriculture. His country is keen on acquiring Indian knowhow.

Our correspondent reports that more than half of the Commonwealth leaders left for home by noon. Those who left today included President Kiprianou of Cyprus, Prime Minister Trudeau of Canada, Prime Minister Muldoon of New Zealand, and leaders of Kenya, Swaziland, Fiji, Dominica, and Trinidad and Tobago. Before leaving New Delhi, the Zambian president, Dr Kaunda, said the results of the Commonwealth summit were very satisfying. The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, saw of the leaders at the airport.

Summit Participants Hold News Conferences

Australian Prime Minister

BK291144 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Hawke, has said that Australia will not lead the world in imposing economic sanctions against South Africa. Addressing Commonwealth journalists at a press conference in New Delhi, Mr Hawke said Australia would not act alone on South Africa when other countries would simply fill the vacuum which is left.

The prime minister's comments came shortly after a lunch with Mr Sam Nujoma, the head of the South-West African People's Organization — SWAPO — which has been calling for full economic sanctions against South Africa.

At a second press conference, Mr Hawke defended the United States, which has been strongly criticized by black African states for its support of the South African stand on independence for Namibia. South Africa has insisted that Cuban troops in Angola must be withdrawn before the question of Namibia can be settled.

Mr Hawke said it was difficult to totally condemn the United States in terms of international politics without recognizing its primary importance in the economic and development areas.

Yesterday, Mr Hawke said Australia would try to change American opposition to Cuban troops in Angola in an effort to resolve the deadlocked negotiations on Namibia. The prime minister also told reporters that Australia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations — ASEAN — had resolved their dispute over Kampuchea. He said that his meetings in New Delhi with the prime minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Kwan Yew, had produced a cordial and constructive relationship. Mr Hawke said the thrust of Australian and ASEAN policy on Kampuchea was basically identical. Both required similar conditions for settlement, including the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops — the process by which Kampuchea could become an independent state — and the return of refugees.

Prime Minister Thatcher

BK291815 Hong Kong AFP in English 1758 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 29 (AFP) — World financial institutions had responded "very well" to changing circumstances, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said here today, refuting calls for new institutions. "It would be far better to strengthen the authority of those institutions, and if need be take appropriate action, than to undermine them by expressing any doubt in them," she told a news conference here today at the end of the Commonwealth summit. Mrs Thatcher said she had been able to persuade the meeting to accept many of her views in favour of adapting the institutions rather than setting up new ones.

She said some delegates put the point very strongly that whatever was done to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the International Monetary Fund of the International Development Association, "none of them will work unless each of us runs our economies in a prudent way".

On Namibia, Mrs Thatcher said she had told her colleagues that the Western contact group had achieved more than any other organisation. Mrs Thatcher added that although Commonwealth members, including herself, were opposed to linkage of Cuban withdrawal from Angola to any settlement to Namibian independence, "that linkage is there and won't go away just by our making statements about it."

Mrs Thatcher said she had enjoyed the conference, although she said she would have prefered a shorter meeting. In a press conference here today Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said he would also have favoured a shorter session.

On Grenada, Mrs Thatcher said she opposed an immediate withdrawal unless there was a security force to replace the U.S.-led invasion force. She also repeated her offer of police training for the world.

Trudeau Returns From PRC, Meets With Gandhi

BK291601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The Canadian prime minister, Mr Trudeau, called on Mrs Indira Gandhi in New Delhi soon after his return from Beijing and apprised her of his discussions with the Chinese leaders.

Later, speaking to newsmen, Mr Trudeau said that China has supported the Goa declaration on international security announced by the Commonwealth heads of government.

In reply to a question, he said the Chinese leaders felt that they would like the nuclear powers to reduce their arsenal. The Beijing leaders were also of the opinion that an effort has to be started in this regard and the declaration, which involves nonnuclear powers, has served the purpose.

Akali Dal Reelects Longowal, Demands Inquiry

BK291311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Sant Harchand Singh Longowal has been reelected president of the Akali Dal for a 2-year term. The election took place at a meeting of the party in Amritsar today. The meeting adopted a resolution demanding a judicial inquiry by a Supreme Court judge into the incidents of sacrilege and killing of innocent people in Punjab.

AFP: Sikhs Threaten To Launch New 'Action Program'

BK291507 Hong Kong AFP in English 1346 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 29 (AFP) — Sikh militants in Punjab today the federal government [as received] they would launch a new "action programme" unless it conceded their various religious and political demands by India's next republic day anniversary on January 26.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA [PTI] in a dispatch said a general house of "Akali Dal," the opposition Sikh party leading the campaign, adopted a resolution to this effect today at a meeting in Amritsar in the troubled northern state. PTI said the meeting re-elected Sant Harchand Singh Longowal as chairman of the Dal for a third term.

Apart from various religious demands, the Sikhs have been pressing for greater political autonomy for the predominantly Sikh state, which borders Pakistan.

The resolution blamed the federal government for the breakdown of talks with the Sikhs over a year ago, while but [as received] the government has repeatedly held Sikh leaders responsible for the breakdown and the continuing stalemate since. A separate resolution passed at the meeting charged the federal government with discriminating against Sikhs in the federal service, PTI said.

Mr Longowal accused the government of instigating violence in the state to "create communal riots to sabotage" his party's15-month-old intensified movement, while addressing the Dal meeting. He underlined to his community members the need for maintaining unity within the movement. "Unity is the only guarantee of our victory in our decisive struggle in Punjab."

Meanwhile, earlier press reports from Punjab said there were a series of violent incidents in the state yesterday, including two shoot-outs, involving suspected Sikh extremists. In Amritsar, two unidentified Sikh youths shot and injured the local municipal commissioner, K.K. Dhir, who was returning home in his car when he was suddenly attacked. The civic administration chief was hospitalised, reports said. The other shoot-out was in Jullundur town, where an unknown gunman fired at a local leader of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress Party. He was rushed to hospital for injuries but reports said doctors had declared him out of danger.

PTI said three hold-ups took place in Amritsar last night. In one of them a gang, armed with a Sten gun and a revolver, robbed a man of his motorcycle. In another incident, two gunmen boarded a public transport bus and looted the day's revenue from the bus conductor, while in a third a dealer was forced to part with his scooter.

PPP Members Arrested While Preparing 'Long March'

BK291648 Hong Kong AFP in English 1633 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 29 (AFP) — Sixty leaders and militants of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) were arrested in the part of Kashmir controlled by Pakistan last night while preparing a "long march" on Islamabad.

The march was intended to press demands for a return to democracy, opposition sources said.

Despite the arrests, the PPP has maintained its call for the "long march," which is due to leave Rawalakot for Islamabad on Thursday. The party was founded by executed former Pakistan prime minister, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

Sardar Ibrahim Khan, leader of the PPP in the area, was among those arrested.

Martial law has been in force in Pakistan for the past six and a half years. But the past of Kashmir controlled by Pakistan, and claimed by India, has not been subject to martial law. Political activity has, however, been suspended by the authorities. Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has promised elections by spring 1985.

Meanwhile, 30 militants have been expelled from the PPP in Multan, the second largest city in Punjab, for participating in recent local elections there against the orders of the party.

JANG Reports Student Agitation in Lahore

GF301240 Lahore JANG in Urdu 23 Nov 83 p 1, 8

[Excerpts] Lahore — Several hundred students of the Science College blocked Wahdat Road and captured 30 minibuses using the road and drove them into the college compound. The student agitation lasted 2 hours, during which the college boys and girls stopped every bus on the road, drove them into the college compound, and punctured their tires. The students did this to make the authorities provide them more buses for transportation. According to reports received, the students had announced their demand 15 days earlier, but the college authorities had done nothing about them.

Later, one magistrate with a number of policemen arrived at the scene, assured the students of official cooperation, and the buses were released in the late evening after thier punctures were mended.

Formation of New Political Party Announced

GF301238 Lahore JANG in Urdu 21 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] Lahore — A deputy of the National Assembly, Dr Mahmud Abbasi Bukhari, announced in a press conference here today that a new political party, Pakistan Rahbar Party, has been founded. Dr Bukhari will be its convener. The press conference was attended by Nawab Saeed Khan, Dr Faiz Mohammad, and Malik Bashir Ahmad.

While announcing his 21 guiding rules of his party, Dr Bukhari, said that his party is watching the present legal situation. If the law permits, a party office and secretariat will be appointed and the party will announce its program. Later a party convention will be called and party elections will be held. Dr Bukhari said his party is not opposed to the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), as his party is in favor of any peaceful movement. Dr Bukhari said his party does not approve of elections on a nonparty basis and that if the government invites his party to talks, his party will attend. Dr Bukhari also called for the release of all political prisoners and the lawyers now under detention.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,558

LD291730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,558 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday in the Marivan, Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht operational areas, the combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions, fortifications,and supply routes, resulting in all activities of the Saddamist forces being halted and one loader, one jeep, and one vehicle carrying ammunition being destroyed.

On the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, exchanges of fire continued, being most intense in the Meymak region. The combatants of Islam halted enemy construction activities and the movement of enemy vehicles. The Saddamist mercenaries' fire was silenced and several of their observation posts and trenches were destroyed.

In the Mehran region, one of our reconnaissance groups, sighting enemy positions, evacuated a quantity of ammunition and arms left behind by the Iraqi forces to our positions.

Yesterday on the southern fronts, our forces opened fire on enemy artillery positions and trenches, inflicting losses and casualties. Our reconnaissance groups carrying out observations brought all enemy movements under their control.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zones, exchanges of fire continued. Our combatants destroyed seven enemy trenches and two observation posts to the west of the Arvand Rud.

Yesterday, enemy long-range weapons fire on the residential areas of Abadan resulted in a hospital building and two houses being damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iraqi POW's Ask To Join Upcoming Maneuvers

GF291246 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] In a letter sent to President 'Ali Khamene'i yesterday, the Iraqi prisoners of war in Tehran asked to be allowed to take part in the Labbayk Ya Khomeyni maneuvers which will be organized throughout Islamic Iran for the liberation of Jerusalem by the mobilization of the oppressed organization, which is attached to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, on the occasion of the week honoring the mobilization of the oppressed.

The Iraqi prisoners of war expressed the hope that their participation in the maneuvers will constitute the beginning of the liberation of the land of Islamic Iraq from the rule of the Saddam regime.

Guards Commander Statement on Lebanon, Persian Gulf

GF290828 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, noted in a statement to the Tehran magazine *QIAM-E ENQELAB*: The huge explosions carried out by the Lebanese Muslims in Beirut and Tyre and other cities — against the Western interference forces and the forces of the Zionist enemy occupying Jerusalem — are unique in the history of the Islamic-Palestinian revolution. Let the Zionist entity realize that the land of Lebanon has become the burial ground for the Zionists.

He added: The air raids and the savage attacks — which are being perpetrated by the United States, France, and the other countries that support the Zionist entity in the confrontation struggle of the Lebanese Muslim people against the occupation and in their defense of Islam — reflects the weakness of these countries.

The commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps referred to the great vitories attained by the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran during Val-Fajr IV on a front that extends 150 km.

On the threats of international arrogance against the economic interests of the Muslim Iranian people in the Persian Gulf, he said: The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran avidly await a confrontation — with the transgressing U.S. and French forces, in addition to the forces of the other countries that back the Zionist entity occupying Jerusalem, and the forces of the regime that rules Iraq — in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Palestinian Day

LD292333 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text of Iranian Foreign Ministry statement — date, place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the advent of 29 November, the day of the declaration of world solidarity with the Palestinian nation, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, renewing the solidarity of the Muslim and militant Iranian nation with the Palestinian brothers, wishes to stress the following realities for the information of world public opinion, in particular Islamic nations and the Third World:

The sad history of the Muslim and oppressed Palestinian nation in the past few decades is full of crimes committed by the Zionist regime and its violation of the most natural rights of this nation with the help of world arrogance, headed by the world-devouring United States. The silence and apathy of the world community and the immobility of Islamic governments have added to the boldness of the Zionist enemy so much so that it has expanded

its dirty aggression and has included Lebanon, Syria, and other nations in the region in its incursions.

The most obvious point in this regard is that if Arab countries in particular, and Islamic countries in general, carried out their duties in defending Palestine the current of sad events would definitely not have reached the present painful position, the wakeful conscience of the international community would not have been injured by the occupation of Lebanon by Zionist forces and by the savage massacre of defenseless Lebanese and Palestinian women and children in Sabra and Shatila, and the Western invading forces would not have had the opportunity to occupy Lebanon and drag this afflicted country's militant Muslims through the dust and blood.

On the day of world solidarity with the Palestinian nation the Islamic Republic of Iran — with repeated emphasis on the need for the public mobilization of the Islamic nation and for the continuation of the struggle based on the Islamic nation and faith as the only way of liberating Palestine and noble Jerusalem — sincerely calls on Arab and Muslim countries to put the declaration of solidarity with the Palestinian people, which now is only words, into practice and to use all their military and economic resources toward the destruction of the Zionist regime and its arrogant supporters.

The Foreign Minsitry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, rejecting all compromising policies which entail recognition of the Zionist regime and ignoring the rights of the Palestinian nation, once again declares its all-round support for the just struggles of the Palestinian nation until the full destruction of the Zionist regime and until the establishment of an independent Palestinian country throughout the Palestinian land.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iraqi Muslims Demolish Baghdad Headquarters

LD291309 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] In a successful operation carried out by the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries, the Iraqi security headquarters and the military center of Al-'Aynah in Baghdad were blown up and more than 230 mercenaries of Saddam's security organization were killed. The Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries announced in the second communique [as heard] the results of the successful 26 November operations which demolished the security headquarters of the Iraqi regime and the Al-'Aynah military headquarters in Baghdad.

The communique says: In the first operation, carried out by the martyr 'Abd al-Jabbar Jarmat as-Sa'idi's group, martyr Ibrahim Salman planted 230 kg of explosives in a car and, in a suicide mission, blew up Iraq's security headquarters in which 200 mercenaries, including a large number of officers and NCO's working for the security service, were killed. More than 300 others were wounded. Also, 50 vehicles belonging to security officials, parked in the building's parking lot, were damaged.

The communique adds: In this operation, the central building of the security organization was completely demolished and other surrounding buildings were damaged.

The communique issued by the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries also indicates: In the second operation carried out on 26 November by the martyr 'Abd al-Husayn Abu Lahmah's group, in which about 30 kg of explosives was planted in the vicinity of Al-'Aynah military center in Baghdad, the building was completely destroyed and more than 30 mercenaries of the subservient regime ruling over Iraq were either killed our wounded. In this operation, the military exhibition connected to this center was also demolished. The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries at the end of their communique congratulate the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq on the success of these heroic operations and announced that they will continue following their path until the subservient Ba'thist regime in Iraq is toppled and Islamic justice is implemented in the homeland of Imam Husayn.

IRNA: Nightly Curfew Imposed on Iraqi City

LD292206 Tehran IRNA in English 1927 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 29, IRNA — Nightly curfew is being enforced at the city of Sulaymaniyah by the Iraqi regime, following attacks by Iraqi mujahideen against government establishments.

RAHE KARBALA, a news bulletin published by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, further noted that these measures were taken by the Ba'thist regime in the wake of extensive attacks by Iraqi mujahideen against government establishments in Iraq, [word indistinct] the victory of the Islamic forces in the Val-Fajr IV offensive.

An eleven hour curfew, from 19:00 to 06:00 hours is currently in force in Sulaymaniyah.

DPRK Deputy Foreign Trade Official Visits Tehran

Confers With Industries Minister

LD242223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The DPRK economic delegation headed by the deputy foreign trade minister currently visiting Tehran this afternoon met and conferred with Industries Minister Mr Hashemi and several of the ministry's under secretaries. Areas of technical and industrial cooperation between the two countries were discussed at the meeting.

Meets Energy Minister

GF271618 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 27, IRNA — The visiting deputy foreign trade minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Yi Song-nok, in a meeting with the minister of energy,

Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, here today discussed expansion of technical and economic cooperations.

The DPRK economic delegation headed by the deputy foreign trade minister arrived in Tehran Nov. 22, and has held talks with various Iranian officials.

Prime Minister Presents Draft Budget to Majlis

LD292137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Prime Minister Musavi-Khamene'i speech at the 29 November Majlis session, presenting the draft 1984 budget to the house — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I present the draft budget for 1363 [year ending 20 March 1985] which is the country's 1-year program within the framework of the first 5-year plan for the economic, social, and cultural development of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As the honorable Majlis deputies are aware, the draft budget is being presented to the Majlis at a time when acts of aggression by arrogant aggressors in the world have reached new heights, and, led by the great satan, world arrogance has committed extensive crimes in the world. The occupation of Lebanon by those powers and the ruthless slaughter of its struggling, Muslim people, the occupation of Grenada, and the present provocations in the Indian Ocean and the Strait of Hormuz are examples of world arrogance attacks, which are aimed at protecting a system that relies on the use of force, a system based on the balance of terror and the infernal power of the nuclear arsenals of the East and the West.

The draft budget was prepared while the war imposed by world arrogance and its agents on the Islamic Republic of Iran is still in progress and is given top priority. War expenditure makes up about 30 percent of government expenditure per year. This affects the country's overall economy, but the war is a form of investment for our nation and all the deprived nations of the world; it will determine not only the fate of our nation — which no longer accepts an imperial court and which seeks an Islamic government — but also the fate of most deprived nations in connection with arrogant powers.

For the information of the honorable representatives, I now describe some of the work accomplished and being implemented in 1362 [year ending 20 March 1984] and also the government programs for 1363. By the end of 1363 the following will receive radio and television programs: radio, first program, 94 percent of the country's population; radio, second program, 50 percent; television, first channel, 80.5 percent; television second channel, 52.8 percent.

Industries and mines: Employment in big industries increased in 1361 by 5.3 percent compared to 1360. The total approved sum allocation for industrial development — excluding direct allocations [as heard] — reached 12.8 billion rials in 1361. Development expenditure for that year was 106 billion rials, that is, 94 percent of the approved sum allocated. In 1361, according to establishment permits, private sector investment reached 49 billion rials. Compared to the corresponding figure for 1360, this increased by 56.3 percent. For the first half of 1362, heavy industries production increased by about 50 percent compared to the same period in 1361, cement production by 6.5 percent, and aluminum by about 70 percent. Copper production at the Sarcheshmeh complex in Kerman for the first 7 months of 1362 was about the same as that achieved in the 12 months of 1361. As a result of industrial projects reaching the operational stage in 1363, it is forecast that steel production at the Esfahan steel mill will reach 1.3 million tons, and copper production at the Sarcheshmeh complex in Kerman 50,000 tons of assorted copper bars.

Roads and transportation: The development allocation for this sector during the first 6 months of 1362 was mainly devoted to the continuation of constructing 7,709 km of roads as well as improvement of another 6,036 km. Moreover, this allocation covered the implementation of projects concerned with the commercial ports of Imam Khomeyni Port, Shahid Rajai, and Shahid Beheshti in Char Bahar, which recently reached the experimental operational stage. Such measures as providing equipment for ports, expanding and improving railway tracks, increasing the capacities of railways and improving airports were also covered by this allocation. In 1362 Esfahan's international airport was opened and the remaining sections of the Baft-Bandar 'Abbas railway were completed.

Electricity: From the time of the victory of the Islamic revolution to the end of 1361, over 3,300 megawatts and 9,000 million megawatt hours have been added to the power capacity of the country's electricity generators. Moreover, since the revolution, about 9,000 extra megawatts of power have been added to the national grid.

Oil industry: The average daily production of the country's oil refineries was 554,000 barrels; this is about a 5.3 percent increase over 1361. The expansion of engine oil-producing plants at the Tehran refinery, which began in the year 1359, was completed by 21 June 1983. As a result, the engine oil-production capacity increased from 90,000 cubic meters a year to 175,000 cubic meters. At present, the country's refineries produce a daily average of 22,000 [as heard] barrels of liquid gas. This equals 140,000 gas cylinders. The Mah Shahr liquid gas plant has increased its production from 54,000 barrels per day to 70,000 barrels per day. As for the reconstruction of this plant, work is continuing and — God willing — it will become operational this year. The No 900 liquid gas unit produces up to 10,000 barrels a day of semidistilled substances. These substances are injected into [word indistinct] pipes. Work on the No 700 and No 800 liquid gas units are in progress. The project concerning the distribution of gas to the Naft-e Sefid region has already begun. The operation for distributing gas to the Gachsaran region is near completion.

Some of the items of expenditure accounted for in the 1363 budget are as follows:

The imposed war, 350 billion rials on the basis of budget note No 24. This can be increased up to about 500 billion rials in order to prevent a shortage of funds if there is need for more funds on the

fronts of the imposed war. In addition to the said credit figures, in the general and defense section, 761.9 billion rials have been allocated to meet the current and development expenses in that section.

Reconstruction of war stricken areas, 100 billion rials;

Shahid Foundation, 43 billion rials;

Foundation for the Affairs of the Refugees of the Imposed War, 42 billion rials;

Grant to the Housing Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, 5 billion rials;

Relief operations, 9 billion rials;

Reconstruction crusade, 103 billion rials, allocated from public and private revenues;

Literacy movement, 10 billion rials.

Development and current allocations in different sections from public revenues, after taking into account allocations for the provinces, are rendered as a part of the reconstruction revenues [as heard] and brought under the expenditures in the same sections. They are stipulated in the draft budget as follows in billions of rials:

Information and mass media, (?13.3);

Government buildings and installations, 37.3;

Public education and training, 479.4;

Culture and Islamic guidance, 17.8;

Health treatment and nutrition, 230.5;

Social welfare and welfare, 209.2;

Physical education, scouts, and youth affairs, 18.3;

Urban development, 20.9;

Rural development and reconstruction, 8.1;

Housing, 88.5;

Protection of the environment, 3.2;

Technical and professional training, 62.6;

Further education and research, 81.3;

Water resources, 93.9;

Electricity, 191.6;

Industry, 175.2;

Oil, 81.3;

Gas, 41.5;

Mines, 39.5;

Trade, 72.8;

Roads and transportation, 239.3;

Post and telecommunications, 29.4;

Agriculture and natural resources, 168.8.

According to note No 34, if the water and land projects, plans to fight animal diseases, and reforestation plans make progress, the above budget allocation can be increased by about 41 billion rials.

In distributing these allocations, the share of the current provincial allocations is 716.4 billion rials and the share of allocations for provincial development is 248.3 billion rials. In addition to what has already been mentioned, I deem it necessary to point out the following figures and plans: 2.5 billion rials has been allocated to provide stationery needed by pupils in villages.

In order to prevent the illegal entry of smuggled goods and narcotics and in order to guard the borders of our country, the sum of 7.5 billion rials has been allocated to closing [as heard] the borders and constructing border check posts.

Judicial units [as heard] are to be expanded and judicial matters have been given special attention. The budget allocation for the Ministry of Justice has been increased to 23 billion rials. In order to meet current expenditure and to build camps for Afghan and political refugees, the sum of 10 billion rials has been allocated.

Budget allocation for reconstruction of war-stricken regions in 1361 was 70 billion rials; in 1362 this sum was increased to 100 billion rials. In 1363, 100 billion rials has again been allocated to this purpose. Up to now, there are more than 100,000 demolished units of which, during the 15 months since work began, about 20,000 have been rebuilt or repaired by other provinces assisting in the project. The government hopes that with the cooperation and help of the selfless nation and assistance from all the provinces of the country in reconstruction, this fundamental and important job can be done with more strength and speed.

The overall budget for 1362 was 5,816 billion rials, of which 3,728 billion rials was the general government budget; the rest was allocated for the nationalized companies and other profit-making organizations connected with the government. It is forecast that at the end of 1362, government revenue will be 3,027 billion rials, while government expenditure will amount to 3,755 billion rials. In order to make up the difference between the sums of government expenditure and revenue, 240 billion rials from unspent budget allocations from previous years, 1.5 billion rials from funds available in the treasury at the beginning of the year, and the rest from internal loans, are to be used.

According to available estimates, government revenue from oil exports until the end of 1362 amounts to 2,088.5 billion rials; gas revenues amounted to 745 billion rials; and other revenues amounted to 194 billion rials. Government expenditures amounted to 2,060 billion rials; expenses resulting from the imposed war, 500 billion rials; development expenditure 1,195 billion rials. The 1363 draft budget being presented to the Majlis amounts to 6,812.2 billion rials, of which 2,580.7 billion rials is met by internal nationalized companies and profit-making organizations connected with the government, and 4,231.5 billion rials provided by general government budget allocations. Of this figure, 2,644.9 billion rials is allocated for current expenditures and 1,369.6 billion rials for development plans; 217.7 billion rials for expenditure is allowed for by special revenues.

Government revenues from oil export during 1363 is estimated to 2,051 billion rials, and revenue from taxation 870.2 billion rials. Revenues from other sources and allocations are estimated at 550.4 billion rials; unspent funds from last year amount to 230 billion rials, while 217.7 billion rials was received from government organizations and institutions. All this amounts to 3,909 3 billion rials. Expenditure will be 312.2 billion rials more than the expected revenues, which will be met by loans from the banking system.

In order to meet expenses incurred by the imposed war and in order to plan and speed action on high priority projects such as the Mobarakeh steel complex in Esfahan, production of [names indistinct], the Baft-Bandar 'Abbas railway, some oil, gas, and agricultural projects, or plans to rebuild and repair war-stricken regions which might expand and thus consume more funds, a maximum sum of 462.7 billion rials from banking systems loans has been allocated.

NVOI Says Government Enemy of Revolution

TA281026 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The People's Revolution and the Revolution of These Gentlemen"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: In order to conceal their antinational policy of terror, leaders of the Islamic government are resorting to various ploys. Rulers of the Islamic government, who have transformed the revolution and Islam into a means to implement their evil and deceitful aims, have exerted all their efforts to distort the facts and to somehow justify the policy of terror and repression. The Islamic government claims that allegedly it is struggling against world arrogance, that world arrogance is terrified of this government, and that this governmentis allegedly a model for the oppressed of the world — a model worthy of imitation. A government that has turned our homeland into the graveyard of freedom and freedom-seekers thinks of itself as the harbinger of freedom, embarks on justifying its disgraceful deeds and the system of terror and repression, and talks about piety and virtue.

Rulers of the Islamic government who today accept no logic except that of force, repression, terror, and persecution, at the same time claim to support the oppressed of the world and present the method of their rule as the best system of government to the people of the world. The prime minister, Mr Musavi, speaks of the international dimension of the Islamic revolution and says that world arrogance fears the international dimension of this revolution more than anything else. Of course, the prime minister and other leaders of the regime hide the fact that it is superstition-worshipping clergy who have stuck the Islamic label on the popular and anti-imperialist Iranian revolution.

During the 5 years that have passed since the revolution's victory, rulers of the Islamic government have proven that they have no aim other than stabilizing arrogance and exploitation and suppressing the movement of our homeland's people. In order to achieve this disgraceful aim they have (?exploited) Islam and have committed all their crimes and treacheries in the name of Islam. Therefore, can one speak of the international dimension of a revolution which has been emasculated and distorted in such a manner by the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran?

World arrogance was terrified of our nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution. By crushing this revolution, by halting the revolutionary process, and by dragging freedom-seekers through the dust and blood, rulers of the Islamic Republic relieved world arrogance of this fear and anxiety. World arrogance sees its best and most sincere allies in the features of freedom-killing clergymen. In reality, too, world arrogance was never able to suppress the Iranian people's liberation movement in the manner that its clerical agents are suppressing. For this reason the fact that the prime minister and other leaders of the Islamic government portray themselves as defenders of the revolution is both preposterous and repugnant.

The people consider the rulers of the Islamic Republic as the sworn enemies of their revolution, enemies who are still striving, in the garb of robbers of the revolution, to destroy all its gains and to stabilize the rule of ignorance, superstitution, oppression, and tyranny.